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- 5. The DNA sequence according to claim 4, wherein the gene coding for a polypeptide of interest is selected from the group consisting of genes coding for dextransucrase, glycosyltransferase, phytase, transglutaminase, peptidase, phenylalanine ammonia lyase, protease, cell surface antigens, bacteriocins, hormones and insulin.
- 6. The DNA sequence according to claim 1, which is devoid of catabolite responsive elements.
- 8. A recombinant microorganism harboring a DNA sequence represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of:

formula selected fro

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and

$$p/o - R_y - (A)_n$$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence identified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of Laciobacillus delbrueckii;

A denotes a heterologous gene coding for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and Y is 0 or 1.



- 10. The microorganism according to claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria.
- 11. The microorganism according to claim 8, wherein the DNA sequence is incorporated into the bacteria's chromosome.
- 12. The microorganism according to claim 8, which is selected from the group consisting of CNCM I-2089, CNCM I-2090 and CNCM I-2091.
- 13. A method of producing a polypeptide comprising the steps of using a DNA sequence represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and $p/o - R_y - (A)_n$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence identified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of vactobacillus delbrueckii;

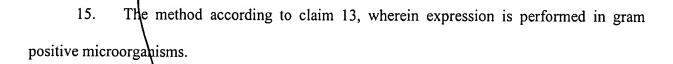
A denotes a heterologous gene coding/for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and Y is 0 or 1 for the production of a polypeptide A.

14. The method according to claim 13, wherein the DNA sequence is harbored in a plasmid maintained extra-chromosomal.

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- 16. The method according to claim 13, wherein expression is performed in microorganisms selected from the group consisting of lactic acid bacteria.
- A method for the production of food products comprising the steps of using a 17. microorganism having a DNA sequence represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of:

$$p/o - (A)_n - R_y$$
, and $p/o - R_y - (A)_n$

wherein

p/o denotes the DNA sequence identified under SEQ ID No. 9, which retains its capability to bind to the lac repressor protein of tactobacillus delbrueckii;

A denotes a heterologous gene coding for a polypeptide of interest,

n denotes an integer of ≥ 0 ;

R denotes a gene coding for the lac repressor protein as identified under SEQ ID No. 2; and

Y is 0 or 1.

Please add newly-submitted Claims 18-19 as follows:

The microorganism according to claim 8, wherein the DNA sequence is harbored in a plasmid maintained extra-chromosomal.

